AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1179 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 37

Let the mind and tongue and press be free. A suppression of error is an aid to the cause of truth.—William Lloyd Garrison.

A. F. of L. Wins New Hearing On Construction Industry Code

President Green Denies Construction League Charge that A. F. of L. Is Blocking Code—Opposes 48-Hour Week as Worthless To Provide Work for Jobless and Says Minimum Pay Degrades Wage Standards—Asks Separate Code for Building Industry.

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor won its demand for a new hearing on the Construction Industry code over the combined opposition of the low-wage and long-hour brigade of employers headed by the Construction League of the United States and militantly supported by the Associated General Contractors of America. Malcolm Muir, NRA Division Administrator, made the announcement.

The demand for the new hearing was made by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, because of the notorious low wages and equally notorious long hours in the code sponsored by the Construction League.

Mr. Green supplemented his demand with a statement critically analyzing the subversive labor conditions of the code and reducing to zero the inane charge made by Charles S. Procter, spokesman for the Construction League, that the officials of the A. F. of L. were blocking the approval of the code before the National Recovery Administration.

Just Code Demanded

American organized labor, Mr. Green pointed out, is profoundly interested in promoting a just code for the construction industry, but it will not approve the manifestly unjust scheme backed by the Construction League of the United States, with its monstrous 48-hour week and a minimum wage for unskilled workers so low that it tends "to degrade the wage standards of the vast majority, who are skilled."

This was the knockout blow administered by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to Charles S. Procter, spokesman for the Construction League, which sponsors the notorious master code for the building construction industry, and who charged the officials of the A. F. of L. with blocking the approval of the code under consideration by the National Recovery Administration.

The text of President Green's statement in reply to the Construction League's unwarranted charge follows:

"Labor declines responsibility for failure to secure the approval of a code for the construction industry and I regard the Construction League's declaration, as additional evidence in support of the charge I made recently that powerful interests are seeking to discredit the National Recovery Act.

Code Blocking Denied

"Labor is not blocking the construction code, or any other code.

"Labor has not threatened a general strike, or any other strike.

"Instead Labor has endeavored to give advice so that codes, when completed, might be workable and contain within them a decent measure of justice.

"It is indicated that joint action will be taken this week by the Construction League, the Associated General Contractors, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the American Institute of Architects designed to bring pressure to bear on NRA in behalf of the Construction League Code.

Will Not Approve Unjust Code

"Labor will join with those directly interested in promoting approval of a sound and just code, but it will not approve or support a code for the building construction industry that is unfair, impracticable and unlawful.

"I resent the unfair and unwarranted accusations of the Construction League and I assert that those accusations were made for the purpose of creating a false issue.

"The issue is not found in the position of the American Federation of Labor; it is found in the proposed code sponsored by the Construction League.

"The American Federation of Labor is acting in behalf of and in support of the building trades unions and their purpose is to secure a measure of justice for the workers identified with the building industry.

48-Hour Week Condemned

"Labor has offered constructive objections. Summarized briefly:

"First, the proposed code fixes a 48-hour week. It seems preposterous to establish a work-week of 48 hours when 30 per cent of the workers in the building construction industry are unemployed and have been for most of the last three years. Through collective bargaining a 40-hour week has been quiet generally established.

Minimum Wage Too Low

"Second, the proposed code fixes a minimum wage, at about 40 cents an hour, for unskilled workers and fixes as much as skilled workers. Fully 86 per cent of the workers employed in the building construction industry are skilled workers. Fixing of a minimum wage for the unskilled worker alone will surely tend to degrade the wage standards of the vast majority, who are skilled.

Labor Representation on Code

"Third, the proposed code permits the code authority to decide what is true representation, make local wage agreements, exercise the power to determine which are and which are not unions and to pass upon 'the bona fide character' of collective bargaining.

"Fourth, labor is accorded no representation on the code authority, although the proposed code seeks to give code authority in charge of the life and death of unions, of collective bargaining and of the wage agreements arrived at thereby.

"Fifth, the proposed code would permit boys' associated Builders and Foremen, which, apart from its inherent injustice, establishes a principle of high importance to rank and file trade unionists throughout a wide range of industry.

"A fireman was turning an engine, which had been in the roundhouse. Ashes were blown into his lungs.

"Internal hemorrhage was set up, and he was taken to the company doctor, who advised him to continue at work.

"While at work, the bleeding recurred, and finally he was laid up for eight days.

"On his recovery he was medically examined as fit, and he resumed work and went back on duty.

"Ultimately he filed in a claim for compensation, which was refused on the ground that the disability was constitutional and not traceable with the action.

"The union took up the case. It obtained medical evidence, both from the local doctor who had treated the fireman, and from his own specialist.

"Under this pressure the company made an offer of a gratuity, but denied liability.

"Instructions were then given by the union to its solicitors to proceed with proceedings.

"Now the company have admitted their liability to pay compensation during the period of incapacity.

"Moral: No worker, facing the risks of industrial life today, can afford to be without the protection of his—or her—trade union."

WINDY CRITICS OF NRA DERIDED BY JOHNSON

Business Bankrupts Yell for Government Raft and then "Kick Everybody Else Off While They Remain in Safety," Recovery Administrator Says in Reply to Attack on NRA.

Louisville, Ky.—General Hugh Johnson, administrator of the National Recovery Act, derided the groups of reactionary business men and politicians who are opposing President Roosevelt's recovery program in an address to an audience of 20,000 here.

These interests are still intoxicated with the idea that they can carry on with the traditional jungle methods of cut-throat practices, with each concern attempting to gain its competitors by methods of commercial violence, and the wage and salary earners paying the penalty in lower living standards and wholesale unemployment.

He declared that self-regulation of industry under the form of Government supervision that is the function of Recovery Act "need not interfere in the slightest degree with such activity held dear by the conservative as individualism, competition and liberty of speech and action."

Mentioning Senator Hatfield of West Virginia, and Congressman Black of New York, Pennsylvania among the outspoken opponents of President Roosevelt's program, Johnson said: "I would be had no fear of "such ry resistance," and added:

"When you hear somebody say that we do not need NRA or would have gotten by as well as we have without it or that it should now be abandoned, it would be a good thing to ask what that person was saying in 1928, 1929 or even on March 4, 1933. On that date, business was shipwrecked and was yelling for a raft, and when the Government gave them the raft, the sole idea of these few individuals is to kick everybody else off while they remain in safety."

UNIONS PROTECT LABOR IN ACCIDENT CASES

London, England.—"Every day, in hundreds of ways, trade unionism proves its value to the workers," declared Industrial News, the official publicity organ of the Trades Union Congress in a recent issue.

"Every day, in hundreds of ways, trade unionism proves its value to the individual worker," the statement said.

"Here is an example, furnished by the Amalgamated Engineers, Founders and Firemen, which, apart from its intrinsic interest, establishes a principle of high importance to rank and file trade unionists throughout a wide range of industry.

"A fireman was turning an engine, which had been in the roundhouse. Ashes were blown into his lungs.

"Internal hemorrhage was set up, and he was taken to the company doctor, who advised him to continue at work.

"While at work, the bleeding recurred, and finally he was laid up for eight days.

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"Moral: No worker, facing the risks of industrial life today, can afford to be without the protection of his—or her—trade union."

NRA CONSUMERS ADVISORY BOARD HITS PRICE-FIXING

Washington.—The Consumers' Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration militantly opposed the price-fixing scheme set out in the fair trade practice rules for the petroleum code to General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, in a letter to representatives representing nearly 200,000 wholesalers. In some instances the price-fixing extends to retailers and consumers as well as to manufacturers and wholesalers.

The code empowers the code authority to fix price differentials and trade practices that it "shall be an unfair trade practice for any wholesaler or distributor to buy any such merchandise from any primary seller who does not maintain such differentials."

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A. F. of L. Condemns Inflation As Big Danger to Wage Earners

Higher Prices Caused by Ballooning Dollars Injure Workers Whose Wages Are Relatively Fixed and Not Easily Increased—Cheap Dollar Is Hit.

Washington.—President Roosevelt's appointment of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., as Acting Secretary of the Treasury during the leave of absence given Secretary Woodin because of ill health brings currency inflation and revaluing gold into the limelight as methods to raise the prices of commodities and especially the prices of farm products. Mr. Morgenthau is tagged as belonging to the group which favors the "commodity dollar."

Currency inflation was roundly, condemned by the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor as an outstanding menace to the welfare of workingmen and women throughout the United States.

In his keynote address to the convention President William Green of the Federation, denounced in strong language the development in favor of unrestrained and unregulated inflation of the currency. He said:

Maintain the Dollar

"Labor knows that this is a problem which affects us very vitally, because we know that when deliberately engineered commodity prices rise, but wages stand still, and until they can assure the full employment of labor, and cheap dollars for the day's work we perform, so that they will conform with the increase in commodity prices, it is my judgment that labor should stand unhesitatingly against inflation of a kind. When the worker earns a dollar he wants to be sure the dollar is a real dollar and that it does not represent to him a decrease in buying power."

The convention unanimously endorsed this significant statement by President Green, and then adopted the following additional declaration:

Inflation Hits Workers

"Currency inflation can be/at of all benefit the wage earners, but will reflect itself in higher prices, with resultant harm. "Whether minimum wages are fixed by collective bargaining permitted freely by the National Recovery Act or by voluntarily collective agreements between organized workers and associated employers, the fact remains they are fixed and subject to change only after the most persistent and aggressive pressure on the part of wage earners.

"If our currency is to be allowed to fluctuate at random, and the level of money values is permitted freely to lessen, it must be apparent that with wages fixed at their fixed demand-national value, there will then be experienced a corresponding lowering of the wage level and earnings. To the extent this takes place, all of your years of struggle, misery, and sacrifice will have been for naught.

Wage Earners Victimized

"Such a condition must not be allowed to take place. The wage standards attained, money values involved, stabilization of exchanges necessary to safeguarded and protected at all hazards, regardless of the developments that may threaten. We favor and insist that foreign governments have resorted to or may resort to inflation, if not repudiate, their financial obligations, but in so doing the greatest burden has been placed upon the shoulders of wage earners, their families and dependents.

"However, we must, under any circumstances, permit our Government to saddle this additional and unbearable burden upon the wage earners and salaried employes under any fiscal policy or monetary experiment or project that will lessen the exchange value of the monetary standard used to fix wages.

The convention also directed the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. "to resort to every possible and practicable means at its command to prevent currency inflation as defined by the convention's declaration.

Pullman Co. Maintains Company Union, Violating Law, Is Charge

J. P. Morgan and G. F. Baker, New York Bankers, and President Sloan of General Motors Are Directors—Porters and Maids Fired for Joining Sleeping Car Porters' Union.—Roosevelt Urged to Put Concern Under Emergency Railroad Act.

Condemning the exploitation of employes of the Pullman Company, the American Federation of Labor instructed the Executive Council to use its good offices to induce President Roosevelt to issue an executive order placing sleeping car companies within the scope of the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act.

The convention pointed out that the Pullman Company is now claiming that it is not subject to the National Recovery Act or the Railroad Act, and that the Federal Coordinator of Transportation stated that the Railroad Act does not apply to the company.

The convention went on to cite Section 3 of the Interstate Commerce Act, which includes sleeping car companies under the term "common carriers" and in the act. "The Railway Labor Act, the convention said, "states in Sec. 1, First, the term 'Carrier' includes any express company, sleeping car company, and any carrier by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act. Under Title I, Emergency Powers of the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act, 1933, the Federal Coordinator of Transportation is moving to determine whether railroad carriers are violating labor's rights by requiring employes to execute a questionnaire sent to the carriers."

The convention added that the Pullman Co. stands a policy in opposition to workers being forced to join a company union, granting them the right to freely organize and declared:

"The Pullman Company has violated all laws of recent date, Railway Labor Act, the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act, 1933, and the spirit and letter of the NRA, by maintaining with its funds a company union, and during recent months has discharged Sleeping Car Porters' Unions which employes have been members of the porters and maids in the Pullman service."

A. Philip Randolph, delegate from Sleeping Car Porters' Union, No. 25925, threw light upon the conditions of Pullman employes in an address in which the charge that the Pullman Company is definitely violating the law by supporting company unions. He said the organization will not permit the company to get away with violation of the Railway Employes' Emergency Railroad Act. "Before we do that," he declared, "the Pullman porters and maids will walk off the cars."

"We contend," Delegate Randolph told the convention, "that the Pullman porters and maids, and also the Pullman Company and all the employes of the Pullman Company, come under the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act."

Among the officers and directors of the Pullman Company, Moody's Manual of Industrials for 1933 lists J. P. Morgan and George F. Baker, New York bankers; Alfred P. Sloan, president of General Motors, and Hale Holden, Jr., chairman of the executive committee of the Southern Pacific railway.

LABOR DISPUTE OVER CODE SETTLED AT CELOTEX PLANT

Westwego, La.—A settlement of the differences between the workers and the management of the Celotex plant here, employing approximately 800 employes, was reached at a meeting attended by a committee representing both the employes and the company, according to an announcement by the Very Reverend Peter M. H. Wynhoven, chairman of the New Orleans regional labor board.

The major grievances ironed out, Father Wynhoven asserted, related to maximum working hours and an adjustment of wage scales. There minor differences pertaining to clerical employment and two technical points in connection with the code remain, but the concern is operating will be adjudicated by the board's subcommittee, on which Charles L. Pickel represents labor.

Simultaneously Father Wynhoven announced the appointment of the industrial relations committee composed of four officials of the plant and four workers to adjust future differences. The workers' representatives are A. J. Bourgeois, Peter Sears, Wilson Bourgeois, and Elsie Bourgeois.

"The differences," Father Wynhoven said, "were mostly misunderstandings on the part of both employers and employes as a result of not being thoroughly familiar with the code affecting the plant."

NRA DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FAVORS GENERAL HOURS CUT

Washington.—A. E. Whitestide, Deputy National Recovery Administrator in charge of the hearings on the NRA Code for Wholesalers, lined up with the American Federation of Labor in favor of a work week shorter than 40 hours not only in the wholesalers' code but in the other codes approved under the NRA and made statute law by President Roosevelt, and all industries operating outside of codes. Whitestide said:

"Reduction of unemployment this winter by necessary increases in production improvement is not noticed it will probably be necessary—I speak unofficially—to reduce the standard of code hours of all industries operating outside of codes. Whether they are specific orders or not.

The code was sponsored by 27 trade associations which have paid out three billion dollars in wages during the past year, employing 2,000,000 persons and handling sixty-nine billion dollars of sales.

SWEATSHOP WAGES PAID BRITISH STORE EMPLOYES

London, England.—The Shop Assistants' Union reports scandalously low wages in the drapery and allied retail distributive trade, declares the industrial correspondent of the London Times.

"Girls of 21 in the North of England shop," the correspondent says, "receive from 25 shillings to 27 shillings a week after seven years' experience in the firm in the provinces, and 30 shillings a week. In another case, a 19-year-old girl receives a wage of 7 shillings a week, supplemented by a commission which amounts to 10 pence a week. This is the whole wage."

"Mr. E. P. Cross, an organizer of the union, said that the union has in support offered glaring examples of sweating in the trade.

"He told of a girl of 18 being offered 2 shillings 6 pence a week, of a cash boy receiving 5 shillings a week, and a boy and a boot shop manager getting only 46 shillings a week."

PWA AID FIRED BY ICKES FOR DEBT CANCELING IDEA

Washington.—Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, public works administrator, wielded the axe of defense against the efforts of Harry S. Berry, State engineer of Tennessee, who has written a letter to city organizations holding out the hope that municipalities could get PWA funds if they would cancel the Administration and then have the debt canceled.

In a statement regarding Berry's dismissal, Ickes said:

"Public works loans are to be repaid. All reports or statements that these loans are to be canceled are without authority."

Under the public works act, States, counties and municipalities may obtain outright grants of 30 per cent of the cost of their projects, or loans for the cost of their projects, to be repaid over a period of 30 years at 4 per cent interest.

Brick Makers Win Pay Boost

London, England.—Officials of the Transport and General Workers' Union announced that the Kent brick brick makers, who recently joined the union, had won an advance of 2½ per cent in their wages, bringing them to 40 cents an hour. The increase is the first pay increase they have received since 1921.

Recognition of Soviet Union Opposed Unless Guarantees Are Given Against Subversive Acts in United States

President Green Riddles Walter Duranty's Slam at the A. F. of L's Anti-Bolshevist Policy—Maintains Organized Labor's Stand Against Communism and Communist Attacks on Fundamental American Institutions.

Washington. — A strong protest against the recognition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the United States unless the Soviet Government gives "positive guarantees" that the subversive activities carried on under the inspiration of that government and of Moscow will be brought to an end in the United States and until the Soviet Government completely disowns the Communist International and its policy of world revolution, was made by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement on the recognition question.

Mr. Green's declaration was made in connection with his criticism of a statement by Walter Duranty in an article published in the New York Times in which he said that "the American Federation of Labor is about 12 years behind the times and that it view the Bolshevik bogeyman in terms of 1921."

Expressing the opinion that Mr. Duranty's statement was made perhaps unintentionally, a tribute to the A. F. of L. Mr. Green said:

"It is gratifying to learn through Mr. Duranty's article that the American Federation of Labor is a factor which is being considered in the discussions which are taking place relating to Soviet recognition.

Uncompromising Foe of Communism

"Readers of Mr. Duranty's article naturally get an idea as to what he meant when he expressed his opinion that the American Federation of Labor was about 12 years behind the times.

"It is fair to assume that he had in mind the opposition of the Federation of Labor opposed the recognition of Soviet Russia, 12 years ago, that it had not changed its position during all that period and that it stood uncompromisingly against Russian Soviet recognition now and for that reason it was behind the times.

"The facts are that the American Federation of Labor has maintained its traditional opposition to the recognition of Soviet Russia during all the years which have passed since 1921.

"This may seem a bit old-fashioned to Mr. Duranty, but there are a great many people in America who are pleased and satisfied because the American Federation of Labor has refused to compromise, and stands now, as it always has, as a foe to Communism and to the acceptance of the Communistic philosophy.

"Indeed, many people wonder what might happen in America if the American Federation of Labor changed its position, espoused Communism and cooperated with the forces in Moscow which inspired the subversive propaganda which is being carried on relentlessly in the United States.

"It would be indeed a sorry day for America and American institutions if the American Federation of Labor surrendered to these subversive and destructive forces.

A. F. of L. Defends Democracy

"For more than 12 years the American Federation of Labor has served as a line of national defense against the assaults of Communism. That line of defense has never been stronger. It stands as an impregnable bulwark both in opposition to Communism and in defense of our Nation's free institutions of democracy and of freedom.

"The American Federation of Labor has refused to accept the philosophy of Communism which means the regimentation of Labor, the establishment of a dictatorship, and the control of both industry and labor by a political power which if ruthless and autocratic.

Subversive Activities Must End

"During these 12 years, and at the present time, the officers of the American Federation of Labor have been conscious of the fact that through the Third Internationale and instrumentalities set up in the United States, the Communist party which is in control of the Soviet government has carried on intensive activities and engaged in Communist propaganda throughout the United States.

"Our trade unions have been the special object of attack by these forces which receive their inspiration from Moscow.

"For this reason, and because the officers and members of the American Federation of Labor were confronted grips with the forces of Communism, the American Federation of Labor maintains its opposition to the recognition of the Soviet government until and unless that government gives positive guarantees that subversive activities carried on under the inspiration of Moscow and the Soviet government will be discontinued in the United States, and until the Soviet government disavows the Third Internationale and its declaration in support of world revolution.

"Mr. Duranty may conclude that the American Federation of Labor is about 12 years behind the times,' but in arriving at that conclusion he compliments this great organization which he concedes is an important factor in the consideration of the recognition of Soviet Russia, as a consistent defender of American institutions and staunch and unabiding Americanism.

"Many of the millions of people in our beloved Country who would feel gravely apprehensive if ever the American Federation of Labor changed its position, embraced Communism and gave it loyal support."

A. F. of L. Opposes 40 to 52-Hour Week In Wholesalers' Code; Hits Low Wage Rates

Washington.—A vigorous attack was made by the American Federation of Labor on the long hours and low wages incorporated in the proposed code of fair practice of wholesalers in the hearing before the National Recovery Administration.

Wally Dressposalvy to the imperative need of permanent work for our millions of unemployed at 30 hours per week, Boris B. Shishkin, labor economist of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Boris B. Shishkin vigorously objecting to both the hours and wages in the proposed code.

He pointed out that the wholesale industry has been under a 40-hour week under the President's re-employment agreement, and that according to the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics there has been only a two per cent increase in employment in wholesale industries since the NRA went into effect.

"These figures," he said, "clearly illustrate that a 40-hour week and the 44 and 48-hour exceptions is utterly ineffective in reducing unemployment in that industry. He proposed that an absolute maximum of 35 hours per week be established, and that after that the work week be shortened to five hours. "Unless the industry agrees to our proposal," he asserted, "the code will fail to carry out the policy of the National Industrial Act."

$16 Minimum Weekly Wage Asked

On wages the code specifies $14 per week in cities of over 500,000, $13 in cities between 100,000 and 500,000, and $12 in cities of less than 100,000. In the South the minimum would be $1 per week less than these rates.

A. F. of L. Demands 35-Hour Week

On behalf of the unions concerned, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Boris B. Shishkin vigorously objecting to both the hours and wages in the proposed code.

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"These figures," he said, "clearly illustrate that a 40-hour week and the 44 and 48-hour exceptions is utterly ineffective in reducing unemployment in that industry. He proposed that an absolute maximum of 35 hours per week be established, and that after that the work week be shortened to five hours. "Unless the industry agrees to our proposal," he asserted, "the code will fail to carry out the policy of the National Industrial Act."

$16 Minimum Weekly Wage Asked

On wages Mr. Shishkin declared that the code should make mandatory "an absolute minimum rate of $16 per week to be paid to common labor or totally unskilled labor only" in place of the $11 to $14 proposed by the wholesalers. "The minimum wages proposed by the code," he said, "do not constitute a living wage and would not make for any substantial increase in the purchasing power of the worker. The wages of all skilled workers should be revised upward and in no case reduced, regardless of whether the hours of work may be reduced under the code."

PINCHOT DEMANDS STATE STORES TO END LIQUOR

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Governor Pinchot declared in favor of State stores for the sale of alcoholic liquors rather than private beverages, at the opening of the State legislature here. He said the "saloon must not come back and liquor must not be sold for private profit for the income to the State, but not heavily enough to encourage bootlegging." He added:

"Private profit from liquor must be reduced to a minimum and the sale, not for consumption in the premises must be in the hands of the State."

BERRAL URGES 35-HOUR WEEK FOR WHOLESALERS' EMPLOYES

Washington.—Joe Berral, labor adviser to the National Recovery Administration, opposed the maximum work week of 40 hours for general employes in the wholesalers' industry proposed by a large number of trade associations in the code for the industry presented to General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator.

Mr. Berral declared that the 35-hour week would be necessary to effect substantial re-employment in the industry.

FORCED ACREAGE CUTS VISIONED BY WALLACE

Chicago.—Secretary of Agriculture Wallace told the American Association of Land Grant Colleges here that the Government may use compulsory measures to enforce the acreage reduction program.

"If cotton growers make undermines the Government plan," he said, "it may be necessary to impose a tax as a matter of self-preservation to use compulsion."

He declared that hog prices now would be down to $2 a hundred were it not for Government support and interest farmers that "there is little hope that prices will not sink to the $3 level or lower within 12 months unless they joined in supporting the corn-hog reduction program.

Secretary Wallace admitted that mistakes have been made in administering the acreage reduction program, but added:

"Millions of people, in spite of the malcontent, are beginning to get the feeling of a common goal voluntarily and intelligently approached.

"Our plan is a voluntary one, in contrast to fascism of other proposed relief plans which contain features of compulsion. But some Government activity is popular now in some parts of Europe but we want none of it."

Civil Service Commission Revokes Two More Bans on Older Workers in U. S. Employment

Washington.—Under the pressure of public opinion mobilized largely by the American Federation of Labor, the American Federation of Government Employes, and other progressive organizations, the United States Civil Service Commission made another retreat in its recently expressed policy to bar men in Government employment, men and women over 40 years old.

Following action revoking its order prohibiting persons over 40 from taking examinations for stenographer-typist and raising the limit in this instance to 53, the commission raised the age limit for carriers in the Indian service.

For junior teachers of home economics in junior and senior high schools the commission lifted the maximum age for applicants from 40 to 53 years and for other junior teachers of home economics from 35 to 40 years.

The original order barring persons over 40 from employment as stenographer and typist in the Government service brought practically universal condemnation from the organized labor movement and all other persons having industrial justice and the welfare of labor at heart.

One outstanding exception was a letter by Stewart Stewart, president of the National Federation of Federal Employes, not affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, who was reported in the daily press as supporting the Civil Service Commission's proposed victimization of older workers.

U. S. FIGHTS PACKERS' FOR CUT IN HOG PRICE

Chicago, Ill.—Two agencies of the Federal Government, the Agricultural Credit Administration and the Surplus Relief Administration, with millions of dollars to spend to raise the prices of farm products, declared that the Chicago meat packers are charging them with attempting to depress livestock prices to farmers at the very time the Government is using its purchasing power to raise prices.

The controversy arose last week when the packers bought hogs direct from the farmers at a price considerably lower than the $4.50 per hundred pounds asked by livestock commission men. The Government served notice on the packers that both the agricultural credit and the relief administrations would back the commission men to the limit in their efforts to maintain the Chicago livestock market.

Millions of dollars are involved through the surplus hog purchases the two Government agencies are making to raise the standards of relief to the unemployed and to benefit the farmers through higher prices.

Colombian Railway Workers Strike Over Wages and Hours

Bogota, Colombia.—Three thousand employes of the Pacific Railroad, the West Coast connection of the sea and the interior, struck demanding higher wages and shorter hours. Dockworkers at the Buenaventura terminal joined the strike.

OIL MEN FIGHT COUPON BAN IN ICKES' RULING ON CODE

Washington.—Counsel for eight Michigan rugged individualists and cutthroat competitionists in the oil and petroleum dealers declared that Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes' ruling in interpreting the oil code was "unconstitutional and void" in opening hearings on the code here on 40 cents coupons with merchandise would be seven times below the minimum. Such distribution they said is the only method of advertising open to them.

AAA REVOKES MILK LICENSES FOR PRICE PACT VIOLATION

Washington.—The Agricultural Adjustment Administration revoked the milk price control hig stick for the first time by an order revoking the license of two milk distributors in the Philadelphia milkshed marketing agreement.

The dealers are P. S. Miley, Sykesville, Pa., and Stanley E. Moore, Reisterstown, Md. Both were charged with violating the marketing agreement by paying producers both of them with their agreement.

FOR PROMINENT PERSONS ATTEND FUNERAL OF HENRY BROENING

Baltimore, Md.—A large number of labor leaders and other prominent persons attended the funeral service of Henry F. Broening, president of the Baltimore Federation of Labor, who died here following his collapse at his office.

Among those present at the Requiem High Mass in the Cathedral here was celebrated by Rev. Joseph Smith, the bishop, were Gov. Albert C. Ritchie; Mayor Howard W. Jackson, former Mayor William F. Broening, who was cousin of the deceased; Frank McGrath, secretary of the American Federation of Labor; Frank Fahrbach, of the Washington Central Labor Union; State's Attorney William P. Cole; Comptroller Hyman A. Pressman; Clerk of the Circuit Court, Joseph Sherbow; Frank Augustine, and Senator Phil Goldsborough.

The interment was in New Cathedral Cemetery.

Joseph Broening was president of the Baltimore Federation of Labor for 16 years and was for 30 years a member of the executive board of the organization. He was also a member of the executive board of the Maryland State Federation of Labor for many years and was a delegate to the annual conventions of the American Federation of Labor.